### Microwave magic

Researchers use a microwave over to revolutionize protein analysis.

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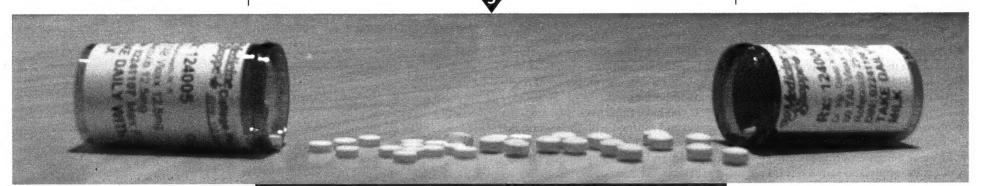
### Bitter pill

Pharmaceutical giant Merck pulls a best-selling drug from pharmacy shelves when evidence suggests it's dangerous. Did the regulatory system work like a charm or fall flat on its face?

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A new herbal cold treatment offers promising results.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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# High-tech pacifier helps premature babies thrive

### Research team puts device into action

By Scott Lingley

A high-tech pacifier, developed at the University of Kansas with the help of a University of Alberta speech pathologist, may aid premature babies in developing the sensorimotor skills to feed, thrive and leave neonatal intensive care units earlier.

Dr. Carol Boliek, a professor in the U of A Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, is one of a team of physicians, physiologists and engineers who contributed to the development of the Actifier, a pacifier that stimulates and records neuromuscular responses while a baby sucks. The inventors, Dr. Steven Barlow of the University of Kansas and Dr. Donald Finan of the University of Colorado, will be testing the Actifier on 390 infants in neonatal intensive care units and charting their progress over the next three years.

Boliek's contribution relates to her area of expertise in respiration.

Barlow and Boliek started working together long ago, "trying to co-ordinate my area of expertise in respiratory control



The Actifier pacifier is a non-invasive tool helping premature babies.

for speech and respiratory control for feeding," she said. "We wanted to include the respiratory system as part of the whole picture for these infants, because in order to suck, swallow and breathe you have to do that in a co-ordinative way."

Using a technique called inductance plethysmography, the movement of the infant's chest wall is measured during respiration, allowing researchers to make estimates about lung volume, breathing patterns and the timing of respiration.

The Actifier collects other physiological and neurological information as the infant suckles, all of which can be displayed on a computer monitor in real time.

But the Actifier isn't just a device for collecting data. The pacifier also provides stimulation to the infant to help co-ordinate and train the muscle systems used for sucking, swallowing and breathing, which in turn aids brain development. Barlow believes this will not only help premature babies strengthen the neural pathways related to proper sucking behaviour, but may help "retrain" those who have brain damage from vascular strokes or intraventricular hemorrhage. Premature babies are

at greater risk of suffering strokes or hemorrhages during or shortly after birth than full-term babies do.

The ultimate goal is to shorten the amount of time premature babies spend in NICUs and avert the sorts of complications that result in developmental impairment.

"We know that the longer kids stay in these units and the more complications they have, the more chance there is that cognition will be negatively impacted," Boliek said. "If there are fewer complications in a system that's developing, then hopefully it leads to the better health of the whole baby."

Barlow has expressed the hope that the Actifier may actually boost IQ and

influence development in the parts of the brain that control speech, but the main concern of research involving the pacifier is to "help those babies be more proficient feeders and get their sensorimotor systems organized," Barlow said.

Boliek is proud to be involved in the Actifier project, which involved collaboration with a diverse group of experts.

"This project is kind of where we're headed in speech science, where we're really marrying technology with not only discovery research but also with potential interventions," she said. "This is a really nice example of getting engineers, developmentalists and others all together to solve a problem. It's been a really good experience."

### Healthy workplace is 'everyone's issue'

### Respect and recognition are keys

By Richard Cairney

Ask Dr. Larry Beauchamp about the best job he ever had and chances are he'll tell you about the time the University of Alberta hired him – some 30 years ago.

The former dean of the Faculty of Education, Beauchamp now holds the position of associate vice president of human resources. His office is responsible for, among other things, ensuring the university offers its faculty and staff a rewarding work environment.

So with Healthy Workplace Week slated for Oct. 25 – 31, Beauchamp wants to underline just how important a healthy workplace is, and how it is cultivated.

Beauchamp says the most productive workers are those who feel challenged by their work, but not overwhelmed, and who



# folio

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are satisfied with the fruits of their labour. And it takes excellent managers to achieve that, he adds. In creating a successful workplace, he says, recruitment and retention are important.

"If you have employees who are engaged and satisfied with their work, that goes a long way in helping any organization attract and retain outstanding talent," he said.

Melanie Goroniuk, manager of health promotion and worklife services at the U of A, says individual relationships between a worker and supervisor have been proven to be a key to a healthy workplace.

"A good manager will look for ways to open dialogue and realize that 'hey, sometimes their staff may know better than I do'. They need to offer a safe environment where it is safe for people to disagree with you and bring forward their own ideas."

Goroniuk says good managers only concern themselves with results and don't get bogged down micro-managing their colleagues.

Another important element is in recognizing and rewarding employees who have done a good job.

"If you give people control over how they do their work it is empowering them and allowing them to decide how best to do their job. Results are what really matter – this is a wonderful way to get people engaged in what they are doing."

Goroniuk's office provides services to university employees who hare having a difficult time and in too many cases, she says, those employees wait much too long before seeking assistance and become burned out.

"In some cases it's just a bad job match and the other reality a lot of our folks face is that they loved their job and they could do the job they took 17 years ago, but that job no longer exists . . . it might be that they liked the job because there was a lot of personal contact and now they do everything by e-mail."

Goroniuk goes so far as to name names when she talks about faculty and staff who are good managers. Dr. Marc Arnal, dean of Faculté Saint-Jean, has provided Goroniuk's office opportunities to brief his staff on programs her office provides, including courses on stress management, time management and fitness programs. And "he goes out of his way to recognize



Dr. Larry Beauchamp

not only his own staff but people all across the university."

Beauchamp says the last thing he wants is for someone's job to be the epicenter of stress in their lives. That not only reduces a person's productivity, it also has an impact on their health.

"I've looked at the research and the research suggests there is a link between a healthy work environment and healthy outcomes of individual employees," he said.

Beauchamp added that Goroniuk is chair of the university's Workplace Health Promotion Advisory Committee, a group he says is doing impressive work. "They've managed to get representatives from across campus on this so you've got everyone looking at the issues of a healthy workplace." Changes may not come about overnight he said, invoking the old adage that "the best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago and the second-best time to plant a tree is today."

What counts is that the issues are being discussed. "They are getting a dialogue started about a healthy workplace – this should be everyone's issue. What is exciting is that we are talking about healthy jobs and a healthy workplace and of course, a healthy organization at the end of all this."

# Building opens in style with donation 'top-up'

NREF will combine civil and environmental engineering under one roof

By Sherrell Steel and Richard Cairney

Workers are still putting finishing touches on the building's exterior and the interior decor looks a little like Construction Chic, but that didn't stop about 1,000 people from celebrating the opening of the new Allan P. Markin/Canadian Natural Resources Limited Natural Resources Engineering Facility (NREF) building during reunion weekend.

Recognizing growing industry demand and enrolment potential, the Faculty of Engineering unveiled this nine-storey infrastructure, which will provide additional capacity for undergraduate and graduate students, will add more than 100 research and teaching laboratories, and will substantially expand interdisciplinary and collaborative research activities.

"This is a significant change in both

the landscape of campus and Edmonton. This change is more than bricks and mortar. We're building capacity for natural resources engineering, and clean energy research," Dr. David Lynch, dean of the Faculty of Engineering, said during the Oct. 1 opening. "We're shaping the future for all Albertans, Canadians, and the world".

NREF will be the home for the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering – the largest department in the faculty. Formerly scattered across campus in 10 different buildings, the department needed consolidated space for natural resources development, including petroleum, mining, environmental, geotechnical, water resources, structural, and construction engineering.

Now, all natural resources research

capacity will be under one roof, offering the opportunity for expanded research in technologically sophisticated surroundings.

The building will increase the faculty's capacity for research and education "focused on the orderly development of our natural resources, with a special focus on energy and the environment," Lynch said. "This will provide major benefits locally, nationally, and internationally through the activities of our graduates and the impact of our ground-breaking research."

Funds came from Allan P. Markin. His company, Canadian Natural Resources Limited, provincial sources, and other corporate and alumni support. During the building's opening, Markin announced he was topping up his contributions with an additional \$1-million donation.

### The Vioxx file

### Did the drug regulatory system work according to plan, or fail from the beginning?

By Richard Cairney

Two weeks ago pharmaceutical giant Merck & Co. Inc. pulled one of its most widely used drugs off the shelves after discovering patients taking the anti-inflammatory Vioxx could face increased risk of heart attacks and strokes.

The news set off a chain of reactions, notably class-action lawsuits in Canada and the U.S. and allegations that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration should never have approved the drug in the first place; and that Merck had long known about the drug's dangerous side effects.

In Canada alone, three million prescriptions for the drug were written last year for patients suffering arthritis or acute pain. Vioxx is the tenth most commonly prescribed drug in Canada.

Merck voluntarily pulled the drug from pharmacy shelves Sept. 30 based on new data from a three-year clinical trial designed to determine if Vioxx would prevent the recurrence of pre-cancerous colon polyps. The trial was shut down when early findings revealed an increased risk for heart attacks and strokes after 18 months of drug use.

On both sides of the border, national class action lawsuits have been launched for Vioxx users who suffered from heart attacks or strokes. A statement of claim has been issued in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice seeking a national class action lawsuit, and more have been started in Quebec, B.C., Ontario and Saskatchewan.

Vioxx was launched in Canada in 1999. In 2000, reports linking the drug to complications such as increased risk of heart attack and other cardiovascular complications, as well as liver and kidney damage and lack of bone healing, began to emerge. The risk of cardiovascular disease among Vioxx users was revealed in a 2000 study entitled *Vioxx Gastrointestinal Outcomes Research*. Published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the article mentioned the increased risk of heart attacks but focused on the drug's effects on the gastrointestinal system – a feature Merck highlighted.

Vioxx was released as a so-called new cure for arthritis pain as part of a new class of anti-inflammatory drugs called COX-2 inhibitors. Vioxx and other drugs in its class, such as Celebrex and Bextra (made by Pfizer) are part of a broader class of drugs, including aspirin and ibuprofen, called non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). The difference between most NSAIDs, which are COX-1 inhibitors, and drugs like Vioxx is that COX-2 inhibitors are less likely to damage the stomach's lining, reducing the chances that patients would develop ulcers.

With the drug pulled, patients are asking if the regulatory system worked as it should, given that Vioxx met all the regulatory requirements prior to approval and Merck voluntarily pulled the drug once it was aware of the risks. Or did the system fail by approving Vioxx in the first place?

Dr. David Cook says the system worked the way it should. Director of the division of studies in medical education at the University of Alberta, Cook says there is a delicate balance in allowing drugs to go to market. On one hand, a regulatory system can be too stringent, delaying access to a drug for patients who could benefit from it, while further tests increase the drug's cost. The other end of the scale would be a system "so porous that things"



Once hailed as an important breakthrough in pain treatment, Vioxx was pulled from drug store shelves when test results showed users faced increased risks of heart attacks and strokes.

that should not be released onto market are, with catastrophic results."

With just one set of rules in place for all drugs, "certain things can be quite difficult to deduce from the well-conducted clinical trials which are the foundation for Health Canada's approval," he said. Vioxx is one case in which so-called "after-market surveillance" provided more information than initial clinical trials did.

While conducting clinical trials, Cook added, "you have to realize there may be some predisposing factors (among participants) that you are just not going to be aware of." Once a drug passes clinical trials and makes it to the marketplace, those issues are more likely to rise to the surface, he said.

So patients need to know if Vioxx is the tip of the iceberg. Will it eventually be proven that all COX-2 inhibitors increase the likelihood of patients suffering heart attacks or strokes? Dr. Joanne Homik, director of the division of rheumatology at the U of A, says that doesn't appear to be the case. One study conducted in the U.S., using a large health management organization's patient database, showed that statistically, patients taking Vioxx were "trending more" towards heart attacks and that patients on another COX-2 inhibitor, Celebrex, were trending away from heart attacks.

"There is an indication it may not be a 'class' effect," Homik said. So the question Homik asks is, what is the mechanism in Vioxx that is causing these serious side effects?

The original Vioxx trials did show a few more heart attacks, she said. But some patients given Vioxx in the test, which compared Vioxx to another NSAID called Naprosyn, were taking daily low-dose aspirin treatments for existing heart disease. During the trials, those patients were told to stop taking the aspirin. This would put those patients at slightly increased risk for "cardiovascular events." As well, Naprosyn is regarded as being "heart-protective" and that was thought to have contributed to the negative results when Vioxx was compared to Naprosyn, she said.

"The new polyps trial compared Vioxx to a placebo, so the idea of Naprosyn being heart protective would no longer explain those results," she said. "But the big thing is, we don't know the mechanism of the increased heart attacks. If we did we might ask 'can the drug still be used?' There are a lot of drugs that have bad side effects

The new data shoots that theory down.

the traditional NSAIDs double the risk of bleeding ulcers – yet they are still on the market."
 From a physician's point of view,

Homik says, Vioxx being pulled off the shelves merely means the list of possible drug therapies has dropped from about 25 drugs to 24. But patients who found Vioxx to be their most effective treatment will now need to switch to a drug they've used previously, but which wasn't as effective, or try new medications.

And although Merck is being applauded for pulling the drug, there are now allegations that the company was aware of problems with Vioxx. Dr. Tim Caulfield, director of the Health Law Institute at the U of A, says the Vioxx controversy raises a host of important ethical issues. Caulfield, a member of the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons' research ethics board, says Alberta is the only province that requires all drug companies conducting stage three (human) clinical trials to register those studies with a clinical trials registry.

Such registries, he said, make the clinical trials process more transparent and could counter "mounting evidence that there is a good deal of bias and non-disclosure" going on in drug development. That is to say that it appears most published reports of clinical trials are positive, and trials with negative results are simply shut down.

Caulfield was encouraged recently when he'd heard federal health minister Ujjal Dosanjh support the notion of a national clinical trials registry that would require drug companies to report all test results, positive and negative. And some pharmaceutical companies, he says, have agreed to a voluntary drug trial registry. A

number of major journals, like the Canadian Medical Association Journal, the American Medical Association Journal, The Lancet and the New England Journal of Medicine have told drug firms that if they want research findings published in their journals, they need to participate in clinical trials registries

Meanwhile, Merck will suffer not only from bad publicity but also economically. Merck stock plummeted 27 per cent immediately following the announcement. The company is expected to lose \$750 million (U.S.) in the next quarter alone. And downstream of those enormous margins are smaller economic ripples. Natural health food and dietary supplement shops are springing into action, taking advantage of the Vioxx vacuum in order to convince patients to use natural products to ease their discomfort.

Homik advises patients to exercise caution in these cases. When discussing alternatives under the broad umbrella of "other therapy" with patients, Homik includes topical NSAIDs, glucosamine and acetaminophen, which "have been proven in clinical trials to be more effective than placebos in helping arthritis pain."

While patients are free to buy as many health food supplements as they want, Homik says she "cannot recommend any that have not been tested for their condition. The issue of safety of complementary therapy is a big one."

And Cook says the public needs to be more aware of the fact that all drugs come with good and bad. "An awful lot of the public don't understand that all drugs are a crap shoot – it isn't all falling on the side of benefit. It doesn't mater what you take, you are going to run into issues of benefit and risk," he said.

If the benefits of a drug, pain relief for example, outweigh risks such as stomach ulcers, it makes sense for the drug to be put on the market.

"It isn't as though Vioxx has suddenly grown horns and a tail," he said. "We have more information in the pot which has pulled the balance down, in Merck's mind on the side of risk rather than benefit."

### Clothing exhibit commemorates royal visit

Collection includes one of Princess Di's best-loved dresses

By Scott Lingley

A recent donation to the University
Of Alberta's Clothing and Textiles
Collection has revived memories of the late
Diana, Princess of Wales and her visit to
Edmonton more than 20 years ago.

Princess Diana's Klondike dress, which she wore during her visit with Prince Charles in 1983, is the centre of an exhibit in the main gallery of the Human Ecology Building that brings together artifacts from that time. In addition to participating in a Klondike-themed function, the royal couple attended the Universiade, the World University Games hosted by the U of A.

According to Dr. Anne Lambert, a professor in the U of A's Department of Human Ecology and curator of the clothing and textile collection, the story surrounding the dress has a special resonance few people could have known of at the time. The dress, constructed of pale pink silk and lace, was originally worn on a British TV series and loaned to the princess for her Alberta trip.

"The TV series was called Lillie, and it was about the life of Lillie Langtry, who was the mistress of the Prince of Wales, the son of Queen Victoria," Lambert said. "Of course there was a Princess of Wales in the picture as well and, of course, Diana was aware by that time that there was a mistress in her household, so it had many subtexts in the whole process."

The dress, which Lambert said actually predates Klondike-style clothing by a decade or so, should look very familiar to dedicated royals watchers.

"Of all the garments that she wore that were published anywhere, the most often photographed and published is that particular dress because she so seldom wore fairy-princess, historical kinds of garments," Lambert said.

The exhibit also features a replica of the Klondike-era outfit worn by Prince Charles, as well as Universiade volunteer uniforms and the robe Charles wore while accepting an honorary degree from the U of A during the same visit.

Alongside the main attraction in the Human Ecology gallery is an auxiliary exhibit that presents royalty-related clothing and textiles from the university collec-

"We have a formal gown worn by an Edmonton woman in 1939 when she was formally presented to King George VI

when he was here. We have a number of things that people had during Queen Victoria's reign. We have a 1950s hat that a U of A student wore to have tea with the newly crowned Queen Elizabeth in the 1950s at Buckingham Palace," Lambert said. "We have a set of squares that people embroidered for a quilt or pillow cover and one of them is of Edward VIII who was the Prince of Wales in the 1920s - he actually got an honorary degree here in 1919

- but he was

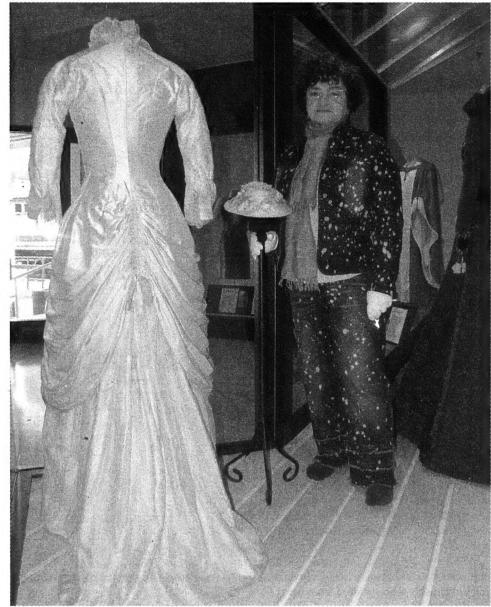
"One thing I found very interesting when I put up the exhibit was the reaction of our international graduate students, students from Nepal and India and Africa, places like that, whose responses were quite amazing. They'd just stop dead in their tracks and say, 'Princess Diana actually wore that dress — she cared so much about the world, she cared so much about people like us.'

– Dr. Anne Lambert

the one who gave up the throne for Wallis Simpson and became the Duke of Windsor, and so this embroidered piece is partially embroidered, then they stopped, because it was to celebrate his coronation, then he abdicated."

This auxiliary exhibit features an interactive component, where viewers are invited to post their own remarks and recollections about the royal visit in 1983. Lambert said the exhibit has elicited some emotional recollections of Princess Diana, who died in a 1997 car crash.

"One thing I found very interesting when I put up the exhibit was the reaction of our international graduate students,



Dr. Anne Lambert shows off the dress and hat worn by the late Princess Diana during a visit to Edmonton in 1983.

students from Nepal and India and Africa, places like that, whose responses were quite amazing. They'd just stop dead in their tracks and say, 'Princess Diana actually wore that dress – she cared so much about the world, she cared so much about people like us.' It quite amazed me because some people are Diana fans and some people are quite blasé about it, but the response of these graduate students

from different parts of the world was great respect and gratitude that she cared and spent the time in her life to do that."

Princess Diana's Klondike dress and the Royal Encounter exhibit are on public display in the Human Ecology Building (116 Street and 89 Avenue) until Nov. 28, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. during the week, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

### Oilsands tailings research centre launched

Graduate students will help address environmental issues

By Richard Cairney

The University of Alberta is opening a new research centre that will tackle one of the oil industry's greatest challenges.

The new, \$2.2-million Oil Sands
Tailings Research Facility will investigate
ways to handle oilsands tailings, a byproduct of the process used to extract bitumen
from northern Alberta's oilsands. The tailings are a mixture of water, sand, silt and
bitumen left over from that process. At
present, every barrel of oil extracted produces three cubic metres of tailings.

The water in tailing ponds is contaminated and needs to be contained. Oil companies re-use the water in extraction in an effort to preserve fresh water. But returning mined land to its natural state is problematic because no one has come up with a technique to deal with the tailings.

"This has been a problem with the industry for 30 years," said Dr. David Sego, a U of A engineering professor and principal investigator of the research centre. "Our desire, and the desire of industry, is to be able to return to a stable landscape directly following mining."

Expansion of oilsands plants is going ahead at an unprecedented rate, with the



Dr. David Lynch, dean of the Faculty of Engineering, and Dr. David Sego, principal investigator with the new Oil Sands Tailings Research Centre, at the centre's Oct. 1 launch.

possibility that northern Alberta's oilsands could increase production to two million barrels of oil a day in the foreseeable future, up from the present rate of about 750,000 barrels per day. The issue of oilsands tailings is growing exponentially as

the plants expand.

"This is one of the largest environmental challenges facing the industry today,"
Sego said.

The new research centre is jointly funded by industry, the Alberta Research Council and the federal government. It is located at the CANMET Energy Technology Centre at Devon, 40 km southwest of Edmonton.

The basic research program Sego is launching "is a step up from the usual," said Jim Carter, president and chief operating officer of Syncrude Canada Ltd., because the technology will be easily transferred to large-scale operations.

And the fact that graduate students will be participating in much of the research is exciting, Carter added, referring to the students as "the next generation of researchers and practitioners.

"We need to do more research and development; we need sustainable solutions," he said.

Dr. David Lynch, dean of the Faculty of Engineering, said the project is an example of the "wonderful legacy and history" of collaboration between the university, industry and government.

## Chemical engineers form strong bond, win teaching award

Students give tough course high marks

By Ryan Smith

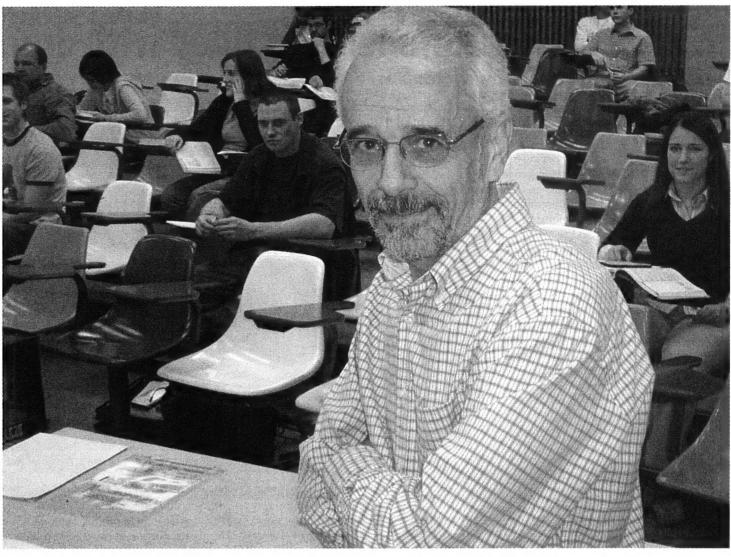
Like it or not, there's really no way around it. If you want to be an engineer you've got to know thermodynamics – a notoriously difficult topic in the field. Fortunately, most students at the University of Alberta seem to like studying thermodynamics – and that's no coincidence.

Dr. Janet Elliott, a professor in the U of A Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, has taught Engineering Thermodynamics (known at the U of A as ChE 243) for seven of the past eight years. She explained that the course is important for most engineering students because it is usually the first course they'll take that is particular to engineering.

"In their first year they'll take a lot of math and science classes, but this course offers their first serious test of engineering problem-solving, and some students drop out because of this class – they take it and realize they shouldn't be in engineering," she said. "However, most students in engineering should be in engineering, and so we take care to make this class enjoyable and valuable."

The six professors who taught the class last year – Elliott included – must be doing something right. In their evaluation surveys last year, which were filled out by more than 800 students, the group received a collective average approval rating of 4.7 out of five. Their efforts have also earned them the U of A Unit Teaching Award this year, which they received at the Celebration of Teaching and Learning in September. The group of professors includes Elliott, Dr. Yadollah Maham, Dr. Alan Mather, Dr. Alan Nelson, Dr. Sieghard Wanke, and Dr. Tony Yeung.

Each of the six professors coordinated their teaching of this course so that they would all teach the same material – agreed upon by all six professors at the start of the semester – at the same time throughout the year. This allows for continuity in preparation for the problem-solving sets and the



Dr. Yadollah Maham is one of six professors who earned high marks for teaching first-year engineering students a difficult class on thermodynamics.

exams that the students must write, and it also allows the students the chance to visit any one of the six professors if they have a question about the course, which all of the professors encourage.

"This teaching group works very well together," Maham said. "We prepare this course each year so that it is extremely organized from the first day of classes to the last. I think organization and prepara-

tion are the keys to making this difficult class enjoyable."

"I really loved that class," said Tianye Li, a third-year mechanical engineering student at the U of A. "I took it with Dr. Maham, and he seemed to know all the common mistakes we would make, and then we corrected them all in advance in class – and he was always accessible whenever we needed help outside of class."

"This course has been developed over years and years and years at the U of A – when I first started teaching it I was given the problem sets and exams in the course for the past 30 years," Elliott added. "I think a real concerted effort has been made to improve this class every year that it has been taught here, and it's important to mention that there are a lot of people who deserve credit for the success of this course over the years."

## Microwave oven helps speed protein analysis

New technique reduces time from months to minutes

By Scott Lingley

When a University of Alberta analytical chemistry professor and his graduate student wanted to speed up the process of preparing protein samples for sequence analysis, they found part of the solution was no farther away than the kitchen.

Dr. Liang Li is well known for his work using mass spectrometry to determine the proteome – the way proteins are expressed – in a given cell. By comparing the proteomes of non-diseased tissue with diseased tissue, the progression of cancer and other diseases can be detected. This analysis may also aid the development of drugs and treatment. But identifying all the proteins and modifications in a given cell can be extremely time consuming.

"To understand protein and cellular function at the molecular level, a major bottleneck for global characterization of a biological system is in the area of defining protein modifications," Li said.

Proteins are often modified in a cell during and after their production. Proteins with different modifications can have "totally different functions," Li said.

Li and his graduate student Hongying Zhong were initially experimenting with ways to degrade proteins into peptides for analysis using mass spectrometry. By mixing a protein sample with a strong acid and zapping it in an ordinary microwave oven, they found they were able to use mass spectrometry to read some amino acid sequence information in the low-mass

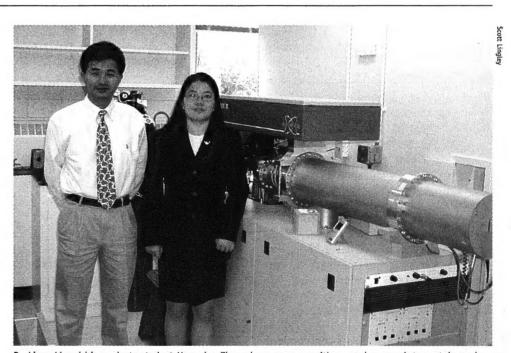
region of the mass spectrum. After refining the process, the technique allowed-them to read sequence and modification information in the higher-mass region of the spectrum as well.

"We have developed a sensitive technique to sequence proteins and determine protein modifications very rapidly," Li said. "In the past, if you wanted to sequence the whole protein, you had to break it into many smaller pieces and then sequence them to determine the entire sequence of the protein. Now we can directly sequence a protein using the new technique . . . this technique is not only much more efficient than current techniques, but also a lot more specific, because mass is a good indicator if there is a modification."

With previous techniques, protein sequences and modifications that could take as long as six months to determine can now be discerned in a matter of minutes, in many cases. And best of all, other bioscientists can start using the technique right away, for medical research and other applications. A summary of the research has been published in the October issue of Nature Biotechnology.

"The new technique is poised to greatly facilitate the process of studying protein functions," Li said. "Hopefully that will lead to more rapid drug development and identification of protein biomarkers for disease diagnosis and prognosis."

Li's work in analytical chemistry and



Dr. Liang Li and his graduate student Hongying Zhong have come up with a novel approach to protein analysis, which speeds the process up considerably.

mass spectrometry in particular has been widely recognized. In the past couple of years he's been awarded the Rutherford Memorial Medal by the Royal Society of Canada and the Young Explorer's Prize by the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. This year he was awarded a Killam Professorship for his achievements in research, teaching and commu-

nity service.

His research is supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Genome Canada through Genome Prairie's Enabling Technologies Project, Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Protein Engineering Network of Centres of Excellence, and the Alberta Cancer Board.

### SCTV alumnus' summers are filled with drama

Augustana prof has passion for comedy, teaching

By Diane Hutchinson

Paul Johnson is very serious about comedy. Well, he's as serious as a guy can be when he spends his work days having fun and his summers teaching others to live in the moment.

A drama professor at the Augustana Faculty of the University of Alberta, in Camrose, "Sparky" Johnson has a long history of making people laugh — and learn.

A U of A alumnus who earned a drama degree about 25 years ago, Johnson lived the kind of life many young actors will recognize. He often thanked his lucky stars that his wife held a good job, as he picked up work here and there and criss-crossed the province to appear in stage productions.

The difference, though, is that Johnson was one of the founders of Edmonton's Catalyst Theatre and received funding from the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission to write and perform shows about alcohol awareness to school kids around Alberta. The first show, a rock opera, was notably titled What's Up, Chuck?

During a 1980 trip from Fort McMurray to Calgary, Johnson spied a classified ad inviting auditions for the famous Second City comedy troupe, which was moving its performance base to Edmonton, where it had filmed its SCTV comedy series. Johnson was the first non-Torontonian to be accepted into the troupe. It was in the SCTV days that Johnson met his mentor — Second City director Paul Sills.

When the comedy troupe returned to Toronto in the mid-1980s, Johnson chose to stay behind and pursue his freelance acting career. He went back to Catalyst Theatre, as well as writing and performing sketch comedies on the CBC-TV magazine show Edmonton File. The local audience was small, but on a trip to the Northwest Territories Johnson was often recognized. "Yep," he says. "Those were the days. I was a celebrity in the North."



Paul Johnson as a construction worker during his SCTV days (circa 1982) and at right with SCTV director Paul Sills earlier this year.

He also wrote and performed a pilot for CTV; as well as a five-part ACCESS television series on the topic of board structure and organization. Yes, the series was a comedy.

The ACCESS experience led to the creation of The Comedy Commission, now about 15 years old. Johnson and partners (most recently Neil Grahn formerly of Three Dead Trolls in a Baggie) travel to conventions and seminars to perform "industrial comedy" — entertainment with a teaching purpose. They attend utility company conventions, safety events and more. At the end of September the duo travelled to Montreal for the National Energy Board conference.

Johnson has also renewed his relationship with Sills, who has established a theatre school in New York City with fellow director Mike Nichols. Johnson worked with Sills and professional opera writer Arnold Weinstein to produce a Story Theatre production in New York in 2000.

And he has travelled to Door County, Wisconsin, to help stage shows at Sills' American Folklore theatre. Portions of his summers are now spent teaching at Sills' school, and at the North Carolina School for the Arts — a unique summer camp for kids 15 - 17 who want a taste of such fascinating skills as stage combat, circus performing, acting for the camera, dance / movement and improvisation.

Although Johnson became a professor about the same time he became a father, teaching has always been more than a way to support his children.

"Since 1986 I have taught every student at Augustana who has ever had a concentration in drama. I've enjoyed being part of a smaller campus and having the opportunity to get to know the students well. But now I'm getting the chance to be part of a world-renowned university, too. It's the best of both worlds."

To Johnson, the combination of teaching and learning is also the best of both worlds. He loves the variety his way of life offers.

"Improv, which I teach at summer school, is all about getting out of your head to be in the here and now. There's no thinking about lines or blocking or what comes next — it's about being in the moment. I love helping people explore that

"But my studies, my collaborations and the people I rub shoulders with all make me a better teacher. It's energizing and keeps me fresh. Creating and performing sketches, getting out in the world — that's what keeps me laughing." ■

## Anti-cold product shows promising results

COLD-fx clinical trials offer hope to cold sufferers

By Geoff McMaster

It falls short of a cure for the common cold, but it just might be the next best thing.

COLD-fX, a natural, commercially available health product made from the extract of North American ginseng, has been shown to sharply reduce the incidence and frequency of common colds, in some cases by as much as half. It also cuts the duration and severity of colds, according to results of a clinical trial conducted in part by University of Alberta nutritional biochemist Dr. Tapan Basu.

Calling the findings "highly significant," during an Oct. 5 press conference
Basu added that "the results are a positive indication that COLD-fX has good potential to minimize incidence of recurrent colds in people who tend to get more than one cold per year... I'm quite excited about this."

Basu led the one-year trial along with Dr. Gerry Predy, Capital Health Authority's medical officer of health. It involved 325 adults from the general population who had contracted at least two respiratory infections in the previous year. They were divided into two groups – one receiving two capsules per day of COLD-fX during the four winter months of 2003/4,

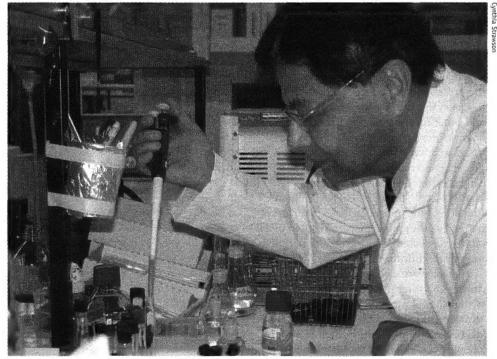
the other receiving a placebo.

The COLD-fX group showed a 26-percent reduction in the number and frequency of cold infections per person. But more striking was the reduction of recurrent infections – or the likelihood of contracting additional infections after the first – by 56 per cent. There was also a 45-per-cent reduction in the total number of days suffered and a 31-per-cent reduction in the severity of their symptoms.

"Our research showed the total number of days with upper respiratory infections per participant for the placebo group was 10 days, and that was cut to six days," said Predy. "This may give both the public and health care providers further ammunition for preventing and managing viral-induced upper respiratory infections, including the common cold."

Investigators also examined the product's ability to strengthen the immune system. Blood tests of those who took COLD-fX demonstrated an increase in T-lymphocyte, Helper T-lymphocyte and Natural Killer cells, which are all involved in fighting viruses.

COLD-fX was also "well tolerated, and showed little or no side effects of any kind," said Basu. However the researchers cau-



Dr. Tapan Basu helped conduct a year-long trial of COLD-fX. Findings show the ginseng-based product helps fend off colds.

tioned that the results, while gathered with the same degree of scientific rigour used to test drugs in the pharmaceutical industry, have yet to be peer reviewed. The study has been submitted to the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* for publication.

COLD-fX is manufactured by CV Technologies of Edmonton.

# talks & events

Submit talks and events to Cora Doucette by 3 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication. Folio Talks and Events listings will no longer accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm.

#### **UNTIL OCT 21 2004**

Sleep Hygiene Group Would more sleep help you feel more energetic, improve your grades? Learn more about sleep and how to implement changes that can result in improved sleep. Share your experiences and receive feedback and support from other group members. Thursdays 10:00am - 11:30am. Phone 492-5205 or drop by Student Counselling Services, 2-600 SUB, to sign up!

### **UNTIL NOV 17 2004**

**Social Anxiety and Shyness Group** Do you feel ANXIOUS when you are: public speaking; meeting strangers; eating in public places; talking to people in authority; speaking to members of the opposite sex; looking people in the eyes? If so, join this group! Wednesdays 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Phone 492-5205 or drop by Student Counselling Services, 2-600 SUB to sign up.

#### UNTIL OCT 20 2004

Alberta's Unsung Heroines Artists Izabella Orzelski-Konikowski and Bogdan Koral-Konikowski's latest exhibition is of 12 portraits of Alberta women who have made quiet but significant contributions to our society. Hon. Lois E. Hole, Lt. Governor and Dr. Harriet Winspear are patrons of this exhibit that commemorates the Centennial Anniversary of Alberta and of Edmonton. Extension Centre Gallery, 2nd Floor, University Extension Centre, 8303-112 Street. Edmonton.

### **UNTIL OCT 22 2004**

Edmonton Excels: Half a Century of Painters at the University of Alberta's Department of Art & Design Edmonton Excels is an exhibition of core pieces by painters with seminal links to the Department of Art and Design. Edmonton Excels is part of the 2004-2005 Centennial Exhibition Series at the Fine Arts Building Gallery. Regular Gallery hours are from Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 5pm, and Saturday, 2pm to 5pm. The Gallery is closed on Sundays, Mondays, and statutory holidays. Fine Arts Building Gallery, room 1-1 Fine Arts Building, University of Alberta campus, 112 street and 89 avenue.

### OCT 15 2004

**Department of Sociology** Department of Sociology Colloquia Series 2004-2005 is pleased to present Dr. Sasha Roseneil, Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies, University of Leeds. "Ambivalent Affectivities: a psycho-social lens on contemporary personal life." Research Workshop for graduate students. Tory 5-15. Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Health Ethic Seminars Photography & Medicine: A Long and Happy Marriage Presenters: Steve Wreakes and Pat Marston, UAH/SCH Hospitals Medical Photographers. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. 207, Heritage Medical Research Centre.

You Want to Quote Me? In this age of instant communication and mass media, it is essential to have some media relations basics at your fingertips, from how to prepare for an interview and get your message across to what to be on the lookout for during an interview. A media relations specialist in Public Affairs will introduce you to some of these basics and answer any nagging media questions you may have. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. CAB 219.

Visiting Speaker Seminar Professor Qiang Cheng, from the University of British Columbia, will be presenting on "Insider Trading and Voluntary Disclosures". 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Business B-9.

**Department of Physiology** "Regulation of airway smooth muscle phenotype and function by caveolae and G-protein coupled receptors." Speaker: Dr. Andrew Halayko, Department of Physiology, University of Manitoba. 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. 207 HMRC.

Philosophy Department Professor Ishtiyaque Haji, Department of Philosophy, University of Calgary, will be speaking on "Intrinsically Motivating Actions and Moral Praiseworthiness." 3:30 p.m. Humanities Centre 4-29.

Preventative War: Uncivil Defense and Innate Immunity Edan Foley with the Department of Medical Microbiology & Immunology at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB is giving a seminar on "Preventative War: Uncivil Defense and Innate Immunity" at 3:30 p.m. in BS M-149 of the Biological Sciences Building.

ASTech Awards Gala The 15th annual blacktie celebration celebrates the ASTech Awards honouring outstanding achievement in science and technology. The University of Alberta is proud of its many past and future recipients of these prestigious awards. 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Shaw Conference Centre, Edmonton.

### OCT 18 TO OCT 29 2004

**Lecture Series on World Widening Literary** Studies by J. Hillis Miller, EFF Distinguished Visiting Professor Professor J Hillis Miller is Distinguished Visiting Professor and he will be visiting our campus between October 18 and 29 and will be giving four lectures in the Lecture Series: World Widening Literary Studies, beside meeting with Faculty and students. Professor Miller will have an Office in A 239C. Location of lectures changes depending on the lecture. Miller taught for many years at the Johns Hopkins University then at Yale University, before going to the University of California at Irvine in 1986, where is he now UCI Distinguished Research Professor. He is the author of many books and essays on nineteenth and twentieth-century English, European, and American literature, and on literary theory. His most recent books are Others (Princeton, 2001), Speech Acts in Literature (Stanford, 2002), On Literature (Routledge, 2002), and Zero Plus One (Universitat de València: Biblioteca Javier Coy d'estudis nord-americans, 2003). He is at work on a book on speech acts in the novels and stories of Henry James. A J. Hillis Miller Reader is forthcoming from Edinburgh University Press and Stanford University Press.

### OCT 18 2004

**Department of Biological Sciences** Laura Patterson-Fortin, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta is presenting a seminar on "Spot42 small RNA and the regulation of the galactose operon in E.coli." 11:00 a.m. M-137, Biological Sciences Building.

Public Health Law III - Ethical Isues Health Law Institute Seminar Series Dr. Ross Upshur, Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Centre. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Room 237 Law Centre.

Students: Connecting Teaching and Research at the U of A (S) Starting with the report from the Working Group on Teaching and Research 2004, this session presents a general introduction to what the University of Alberta is doing, and could be doing, to connect teaching and research for undergraduate students. 12:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. CAB 219.

**Dealing With Difficult Situations** With a focus on communication, this session offers some proven skills designed to diffuse difficult situations that can occur in the classroom, lab, or office. Based upon a program called Verbal Judo, the presenter reviews the skills necessary to remain calm and focused during any verbal encounter. 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. CAB 235.

### OCT 19 2004

University Teaching
Services Incorporating Research
and Collaboration in a Large
Introductory Course: Business 201
(M). By using an example from the
School of Business, this session
focuses on how you can structure
a large introductory lecture class
to have small group activity and
collaboration, along with practical
research and communication skill
development. 12:30 p.m. to 1:45
p.m. CAB 219.

Language Study in a Globalized Comp Lit This is the first of four lectures by Prof. J. Hillis Miller in the series on "World Widening Literary Studies." 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Convocation Hall in Arts Building.

### OCT 20 2004

Department of Biological Sciences Linda Bui, Department Biological Sciences, University of Alberta is presenting a seminar on "FtsZ inhibitors". 11:00 a.m. M-137, Biological Sciences Building.

PHS Grand Rounds Dr Ken Zakariasen Associate Dean and Chair, Department of Dentistry, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry; Adjunct Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences "Strategies for the Future: The Power of Whole-Systems Approaches." 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building.

University Teaching
Services Industry Partners
Facilitating Undergraduate
Research: Animal Science 471 (C).
This session explores how you
can structure meaningful research
projects for students, in collabora-



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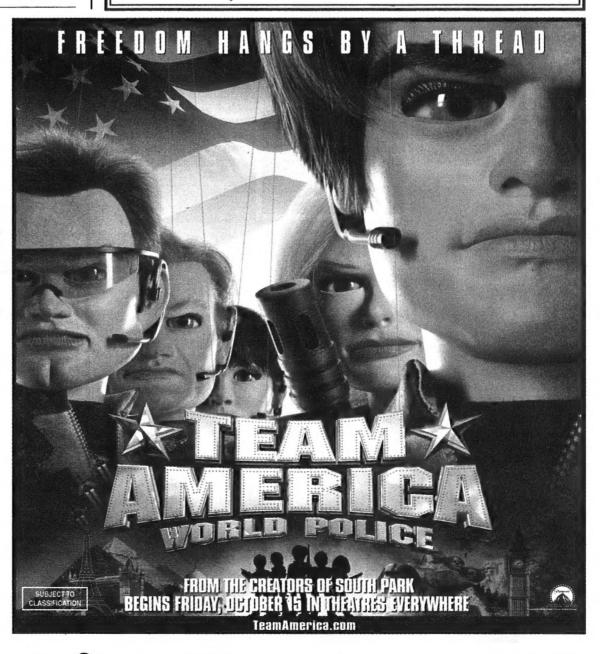


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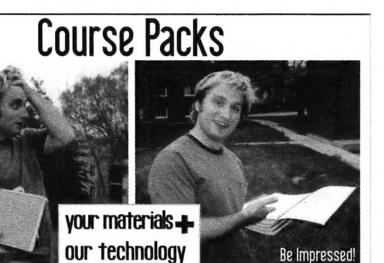


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tion with industry partners, to better facilitate the undergraduate research experience. 12:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. CAB 219.

Being A Mentor What is involved in being a mentor? Who is a mentor and who is not? What qualities are needed to be a successful mentor? In this session, these questions will be answered and consideration will be given to finding and keeping a mentor regardless of where instructors are in their careers. Audience participation is encouraged. 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. CAB 235.

Globalizing National Lit Programs This is the second lecture (of four) in the series by Prof. J. Hillis Miller in the series on "World Widening Literary Studies." 3:00 p.m. H-C L3.

### OCT 21 2004

Confronting Obesity: Research, Policy, and Practice The purpose of this symposium is to explore the behaviourial, environmental, and social causes related to the obesity epidemic in our society, and the ways we can promote healthy weights, in the context of three perspectives: research, policy, and practice. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lister Centre.

**Information and Privacy Office Privacy** Legislation and Records Management. This session is geared primarily to records managers, FOIPP liaison officers and departmental administrative officers. It will deal with the impact of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act on records management within the University and will review the basic principles of records management at the University of Alberta. Presenters: Bryan Corbett, University Archivist, and James Franks, Associate University Archivist Please register with Nelda Hinds (492-9419 or nelda.hinds@ualberta.ca). 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. TBW2 (Tory Breezeway).

Making Inquiry-Based Learning the Standard Discussion at this session focuses on how you can structure the curriculum for undergraduate students to make inquiry-based learning the standard in all classes. 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. CAB 219.

Speaker's Series 2004-5: Conjunctions of the Social and the Political Dr. David Kahane, Department of Philosophy, University of Alberta will give a talk on the following topic: Teaching without drama.' 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. 10-4 Tory Building.

Biopolitics: The interface between science and forestry policy in Alberta Dr. Rick Schneider, **Executive Director, Alberta Centre for Boreal** Studies. Over the past decade there has been a virtual explosion of new information on the ecology and management of forest ecosystems, much of it emanating from researchers in Alberta. We have also had the development of the Alberta Forest Conservation Strategy, providing a framework for the management approach and outcomes desired by Albertans for their public forests. However, provincial legislation and regulations remain firmly wedded to principles of management that date back to 1948, such as "sustained-yield". What's more, in the opinion of the Minister of Sustainable Resource Development, "We have one of the bestmanaged forest operations in North America." The current disjunction between public values, scientific understanding, and government policy in Alberta will be the focus of Dr. Schneider's presentation. The critical role of the scientific community in the process of updating the Forests Act and related regulations will also be highlighted. 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Room 120 V-Wing Lecture Theatres

Shirin Ebadi - Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights Shirin Ebadi, 2003 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate will deliver the 8th annual University of Alberta Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights. Tickets available through Ticketmaster. 7:30 p.m. Universiade Pavilion (Butterdome).

### OCT 22 TO OCT 24 2004

People, Wildlife and Hunting: Emerging **Conservation Paradigms** An International Conference SUMMARY: Worldwide experience sugprograms can contribute significantly to successful conservation programs. Program success is linked to the sustainability of local communities as well as to wildlife populations, and requires meaningful co-operation among managers, scientists, local residents, and various business and public stakeholders. This conference will examine and analyze, through examples occurring in the Northwest and Arctic (as well as internationally), how conservation-hunting programs link wildlife and people in ways that foster successful conservation outcomes. One main goal of the conference is to define the state-of-knowledge and collective vision on this topic to inform a manual that will provide wildlife managers, local communities and outfitting operators with best-practice guidelines for establishing or improving conservation-hunting programs in their own community or region. If you require further contact the Conference Organizer, Milton Freeman, at mf2@ualberta.ca or by contacting: C-H Conference Office Canadian Circumpolar Institute University of Alberta Suite 308, 8625 - 112 Street, Edmonton AB, T6G 0H1 (Canada) Tel: (1)-780-492-4682 (direct) (1)-780-492-4512 (messages) Fax: (1)-780-492-1153 (fax) website: www.conservationhunting.ca 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Greenwood Inn, Edmonton, Alberta.

### OCT 22 2004

**Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical** Sciences Research Day Keynote Speaker: Dr. Habib Fakhrai, President and CEO of NovaRx (San Diego, CA) "Targeting tumors by blocking TGF-beta secretion in whole cell therapeutic vaccines" Other Podium and Poster Presentations by Faculty Academic members, Graduate Students, Postdoctoral Fellows and Research Associates. 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telus Centre.

**Using Technology to Bring Research into** the Large Lecture Class This session considers how WebCT, and other technological tools, can be used to bring research into large lecture class settings in a meaningful way for students. 12:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. CAB 219.

Syncrude/PIMS/AMI Lecture Series Dr. Roland Glowinski, Cullen Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Engineering from the University of Houston Will speak on: Operator-Splitting Methods: Application to Continuum Mechanics and Geometry. 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. CAB 243.

Department of Philosophy "The Good, the Bad and the Green: Fitting the environment into Aristotle's virtues." Matthew Barker, Department of Philosophy, University of Alberta. 3:30 p.m. Humanities Centre 4-29.

Syncrude/PIMS/AMI Lecture Professor Roland Glowinski of the University of Houston and the University of Paris will speak on Operator **Splitting Methods with Applications to Continuum** Mechanics. This is the second in a series of lectures sponsored by Syncrude, the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS), and the Applied Mathematics Institute (AMI) at the University of Alberta. 3:30 p.m. CAB 243.

**Department of Sociology** Harvey Krahn "Paying for Post-Secondary Education: How Much Tuition is Too Much?" and Maureen Goutier "Care Improvement Within the Context of Long-Term Care: A Policy Maker's View." 4:00 p.m. Tory Building 5-15.

### OCT 25 2004

The Centre for Research on Literacy Beginning Literacy: Links among Teacher Knowledge, Teacher Practice and Student Learning. Although the importance of phonological awareness has been discussed widely in the research literature, the concept is not well understood by many classroom teachers. Dr. McCutchen will discuss a study in which she and colleagues worked with kindergarten and first-grade teachers, sharing research about learning disabilities and effective instruction, and stressing the importance of explicit instruction in phonological and orthographic awareness. Researchers followed that group of teachers and a wait-listed control group into their classrooms for a year, monitoring teachers' classroom practices and their students' (n = 779) learning. The study yielded three major findings: (1) we can deepen teachers' own knowledge of the role of phonological and orthographic information in literacy instruction, (2) teachers can use that knowledge to change classroom practice, and (3) changes in teacher knowledge and classroom practice can improve student learning. 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Room 651a Education South.

**Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical** Sciences Dr. Lakshmi Kotra, an AHFMR Visiting Lecturer, who is a medicinal chemist from the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Toronto, will be giving a seminar entitled "Challenges in drug design: Two tales of mechanism-based and structure-based strategies." 4:00 p.m. Room 2031 Dentistry/Pharmacy Centre.

PowerPoint Custom Templates This handson session takes participants on a step-by-step design journey by creating custom pages for a presentation. Participants are encouraged to bring an existing presentation to transform into something that truly engages students. Limited computer workstations available. 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. chnology Training Centre, Cameron Lib

**CP Rail Lecture and Book Launch Following** the lecture by Linda Goyette, join the University of Alberta for the launch of Edmonton in Our Own Words, by Linda Goyette and Carolina Jakeway Roemmich, the official book of Edmonton's Centennial. 7:30 p.m. MacDonald Hotel.

### OCT 26 2004

**Collaborative Models of Settlement, Education and Integration Services in Edmonton** The Prairie Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration & Integration is pleased to present: Collaborative Models of Settlement, Education and Integration Services in Edmonton, by Ana Maria Fantino, Catholic Social Services, 10709 105 St., Edmonton, Alberta. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Reading by Paul Dutton Paul Dutton is a Toronto poet, essayist, fiction writer, vocal sound artist, editor, and musician. He has made his mark in Canada and internationally as a leading oral sound artist, performing as a soloist and as a member of the performance/poetry group The Four Horsemen (1970-1988) and the free-improvisational performance group CCMC (1989-present). In his latest work, and first novel, Several Women Dancing (The Mercury Press), "the author's precision and musicality of language in verse reveals striking rhythms of diction, syntactical balance, and loud, effective tones." This performance is funded by a grant from the League of Canadian Poets. 2:00 p.m. Humanities Centre, L-3.

Paper Persons vs Pixel Persons: Indegene and Cybersurfer This is the third lecture (out of 4) by Prof Hillis Miller. 3:30 p.m. Humanities Centre, L-3.

### OCT 27 2004

Leading a Balanced Life Many busy professors and graduate students struggle to achieve a balanced life. This session shows that the key aspect of balance is one of choice. Through experiential activities, we explore the power of perspectives and look at what clearly saying "yes" or "no" to various alternatives can mean. 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. CAB 235.

Literary Works as Models of Community.
Modernist Literature as Critique of Global
Capitalism This is the fourth and last lecture by
Prof. J Hillis Miller in the series: World Widening
Literary Studies. 3:00 p.m. Humanities Centre, L-3.

The University of Alberta chapter of Sigma Xi Lecture by Dr. Charles Wong, Department of Chemistry, on "Environmental stereochemistry and the fate of halogenated pollutants". Lecture sponsored by Sigma Xi. Open to all. Refreshments at 4:15 pm. Lecture starts at 4:30 pm. M-145 Biological Sciences Building. 4:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### OCT 28 2004

New Staff Orientation All new ACADEMIC AND SUPPORT STAFF are invited to attend ORIENTATION TO THE UNIVERSITY on Thursday, October 28, 2004 - - 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. By attending this orientation session you will have the opportunity to: Hear what UofA leaders have to say about our mission and vision. Learn about campus services and resources available to support your work. Find out about UofA staff associations and HR services. If you have worked at the UofA for awhile, but have not attended a previous orientation, you

are welcome to join us on October 28th. ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Please visit the website to obtain a registration form. Lister Hall.

Under the Northern Lights: The Boreal Forest "Predicting mixedwood succession — exploring the boundaries between science and forest management, Dr. Vic Liefers, Renewable Resources. 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Room 120, V-Wing Lecture Theatres.

Academic Technologies for Learning Evidence-based suggestions for online discussion groups. Online discussion is a prominent component in many courses at the U. of A. The presenter will focus on research findings related to types of

nent in many courses at the U. of A. The presenter will focus on research findings related to types of participation, work demands, and practical strategies to enhance learning through online discussions. 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Room 214/216 TELUS Centre for Professional Development.

**Town and Gown Lecture** This is Prof. J. Hillis Miller's Town and Gown address: "Sovereignty Death Literature Unconditionality Democracy University." 7:00 p.m. Faculty Club, Papaschase Room.

### OCT 28 TO OCT 30 2004

Legacies of Theory "Legacies of Theory" is a two day conference to which take part the most important literary theorists in North America. Professor J. Hillis Miller's lecture on Thursday Oct 28 at the Faculty Club (7:00 p.m.) is also the beginning of this conference. For the full program see the Website. The Friday and Saturday Lectures will take place in TBW2 (Tory Breezeway).

#### OCT 29 2004

Cilia and the Cell Cycle: The Role of NIMA-Related Kinases in an Enigmatic Relationship Lynn Quarmby with the Department of Biological Sciences at Simon Fraser University at Burnaby, BC is giving a seminar on "Cilia and the Cell Cycle: The Role of NIMA-Related Kinases in an Enigmatic Relationship." Faculty of Science, Department of Biological Sciences, Molecular Biology and Genetics Group and Genetics 605 students seminar. 3:30 p.m. M-149 Biological Sciences Building.

# positions

The records arising from this competition will be managed in accordance with provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity of employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons. With regard to teaching positions: All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. For complete U of A job listings visit www.hrs.ualberta.ca

# SENIOR ASSOCIATE OR FULL PROFESSOR/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (PRL) DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

The Department of Sociology invites applications for a tenure track position at the senior associate or full professor level for the position of executive director of the department's Population Research Laboratory, commencing July 1, 2005. A PhD is required.

The Population Research Laboratory is the largest university-based survey and demographic research facility in Western Canada. The mission of the PRL is to facilitate the teaching, research and service goals of the Department of Sociology, the Faculty of Arts, and the larger university community. The PRL was established in 1966 and is a centre for social science research at the University of Alberta. Clients of the PRL have included academic researchers, government departments and agencies, regional health authorities, professional associations and non-profit organizations.

The executive director will be expected to develop an independent research program, actively seek research grants and contracts, co-ordinate faculty research efforts, develop a strategic vision and provide administrative leadership to the PRL. The successful candidate will have demonstrated success in obtaining grants, publishing in the social sciences and should exhibit a commitment to interdisciplinary research.

Applicants should submit a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and arrange for three confidential letters of reference to be sent by December 15, 2004 to:

Dr. R. A. Sydie, Professor and Chair Department of Sociology University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H4 Canada Fax: (780) 492-7196

For additional information, the Sociology website is at www.arts.ualberta.ca/socweb/

# TENURE TRACK FACULTY POSITIONS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Applications are invited for tenure-track positions in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Alberta. The department offers two degrees: an entry-level MPT degree, and a thesis-

based, MSc degree in physical therapy. The department also participates fully in an interdisciplinary PhD degree program in rehabilitation science.

Qualified candidates should hold a doctoral degree and have a proven record of scholarly activity in teaching and research. Candidates should have a well-defined research agenda. Evidence of successful grant applications will be advantageous. All areas of research related to physical therapy are of interest. Responsibilities will include teaching in both the entry-level and thesis-based programs, and maintaining an active research program.

Within the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, interdisciplinary research groups focus on common spinal disorders, movement disorders and rehabilitation, child development and aging. Many opportunities for research collaboration are also available on campus, such as the Alberta Centre on Aging, the University Centre for Neuroscience, the Institute of Health Economics, Alberta Heart Institute, the Alberta Provincial CIHR Training Program in Bone and Joint Health, the Centre for Health Promotion Studies, the Community University Partnership for the Study of Children Youth and Families, the Perinatal Research Centre and the Health Care Quality Outcomes Research Centre. Close working ips exist with the Glenrose Hospital and other community-based programs in physical therapy. This provides a dynamic, rich environment for physical therapy education and research. Numerous members of the department are also actively engaged in international education, service and research programs.

Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications at the Assistant Professor or Associate Professor level. The positions are available immediately. Review of applications will commence on Jan 15, 2005 and continue until the positions are filled. Interested applicants should send curriculum vitae and a statement of teaching and research interests to:

Dr. Albert Cook, Dean Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine 3-48 Corbett Hall University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2G4 Phone: 780-492-5991 Fax: 780-492-1626

### ASSISTANT PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

The Department of Sociology invites applications for two tenure-track positions at the Assistant



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Dr. Peter Hackett President and CEO

The Alberta Ingenuity Fund's Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Peter Hackett as President and CEO.

Dr. Hackett is an internationally recognized research leader and chemical physicist, and former Vice-President (Research) at the National Research Council of Canada (NRC). He was the lead NRC executive behind the creation and design of the National Institute for Nanotechnology (NINT) at the University of Alberta, and a member of the Board and of the Executive Committee of iCORE (the Informatics Circle of Research-Excellence), based in Calgary.

Dr. Hackett is a Trustee of the Steacie Foundation, and has been an Adjunct Professor in Chemistry at the Universities of Toronto and Saskatchewan. He is also a member of the Institute Advisory Board of the CIHR Institute of Genetics.



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ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE GRADUANDS PUBLIC THESIS and DISSERTATION PRESENTATIONS

LISTER CENTRE AND ST. STEPHENS'S COLLEGE OCTOBER 18, 2004 2:00 - 5:00pm

The public is welcome to attend graduate and doctoral thesis presentations of St. Stephen's College graduates from the graduating class of 2004. Seventeen students will be presenting, from the following degree programs:

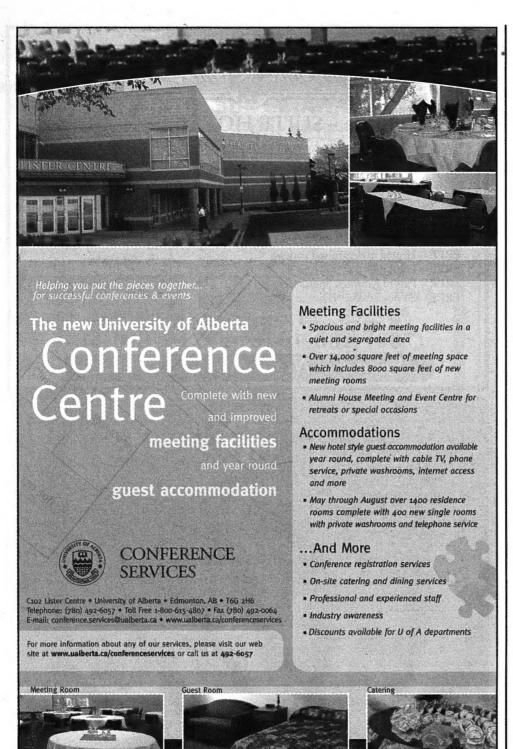
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MASTER OF ARTS IN PASTORAL PSYCHOLOGY & COUNSELLING

MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

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Professor level in the areas of Social Inequality/Social Policy and Classical Social Theory, commencing July 1, 2005. The benefits package is comprehensive. PhD is required at the time of appointment, and applicants must demonstrate a strong record/outstanding potential for research, excellent communication and teaching skills, and leadership potential.

(1) Social Inequality/Social Policy: Preference will be given to applicants with teaching and research interests in poverty, social class, race/racism, and related areas of social inequality and who emphasize the social policy implications of their research.

(2) Classical Social Theory: Preference will be given to applicants with teaching and research interests in comparative historical sociology, social and political thought, and sociology of knowledge.

Applicants should submit a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and arrange for three confidential letters of reference to be sent by January 10, 2005 to:

Dr. R. A. Sydie, Professor and Chair Department of Sociology University of Alberta Edward Ted 2H4 Canada Fax: (780) 492-7196

For additional information, the Sociology website is at www.arts.ualberta.ca/socweb/

# CURATOR & DIRECTOR OF THE PARASITOLOGY COLLECTION DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The Department of Biological Sciences requires an individual to serve as curator and director of their Parasitology Collection (which includes over 11,000 lots of specimens, primarily helminth parasites). The position also involves significant components of research and teaching, and management of the flow cytometry facility. The incumbent will provide on-site expertise to support and develop this facility. A long-

term objective is the modernization of the specimen storage and record retrieval system of the facility, and the integration of several orphan collections.

A PhD in parasitology combined with directly related experience is required. The applicant should have a strong research component focusing on helminth parasites. Research output would be reflected in publications, conferences, field and experimental work and grant applications. Research projects should include field or experimental studies on systematics, morphology or ecology of helminth parasites. In addition, the candidate must have superior written and verbal communication skills in English and have demonstrated competency using standard computer software for word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, web editing, photo editing, statistical analysis (e.g. Systat or SPSS or equivalent) and FACSCalibur cytometer software (CellQuest).

Teaching responsibilities include the development and instruction of a course in Wildlife Disease in addition to contributions to teach other parasitology courses. The successful applicant would be expected to supervise graduate students, as well as serve on other departmental supervisory committees. As manager of the flow cytometry facility, the applicant will provide consultation and training in the use of two FACSCalibur cytometers.

The appointment is an academic position at the Faculty Service Officer level and would report to the chair of the department. The salary range for this position is \$51,768 to \$73,320 CDN (2004-05) and is a full-time continuing appointment.

Applications must be received by Friday,
October 29, 2004. Please submit a letter of application with a detailed curriculum vita along with
a list of at least three references electronically to
positions@biology.ualberta.ca or by mail to Dr LS
Frost, Chair, Department of Biological Sciences,
CW 405 Biological Sciences Building, University of
Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2E9.

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### REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THE DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION

As you know, Dr. Mahon's first term as Dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation will end on June 30, 2005, therefore, a Review Committee has been established in accordance with University regulations. Dr. Mahon has indicated that he intends to seek a second term in office.

At this point in its deliberations, the Review Committee is interested in your opinions about the state of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation under the leadership of the current Dean. The Committee believes it is critical that all faculty, staff and students in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation have the opportunity to convey their views to the Committee. More specifically, the Committee is interested in the following:

- Leadership ability to provide a vision and direction for the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation and achieve the strategic goals of the Faculty;
- Management fairness, balance and effectiveness in decision-making affecting the direction of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation; effectiveness at setting priorities and dealing with issues;
- Personnel Management issues dealing with the recruitment and retention of staff, as well as the administration of all personnel within Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation:
- Contributions the contributions of the Dean within the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, the University, the Community, and Professional Field:
- Development the success of the Faculty in achieving its goals with resources available;
- Communications the effectiveness of both internal and external communications;
  - Other matters.

If you wish to respond to the above issues, would you please forward your comments/advice no later than

November 15, 2004 to my attention at the address below:

Carl G Amrhein

Provost and Vice-President (Academic) & Committee Chair

2-10 University Hall Edmonton AB T6G 2J9 OR E-Mail: provost@ualberta.ca

In addition, an open 'Public Forum' with the Dean will be scheduled in the near future. At the Forum, the Dean will discuss his vision of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation for the next five years. Please watch for details.

Your views are important to us and I encourage you to share your thoughts with the committee. Should you prefer to submit your comments to another committee member please feel free to do so. Please contact any member of the Dean Review Committee or myself for additional information.

Thank you for your assistance.

Carl G Amrhein

Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and

Chair, Dean Review Committee

**Dean Review Committee Contact Information:** Carl Amrhein 492-3920 provost@ualberta.ca Deb Larsen deb.larsen@ualberta.ca 492-6320 Bill McBlain 492-5320 bill.mcblain@ualberta.ca Helen Madill 492-8661 helen.madill@ualberta.ca Teresa Krukoff 492-5920 teresa.krukoff@ualberta.ca Greg Ramshaw 492-0604 Brian Nielsen 492-3839 brian.nielsen@ualberta.ca Stacey Badry sbadry@ualberta.ca

Marcel Bouffard492-3566 marcel.bouffard@ualberta.ca Leah Wack 492-5604 leah.wack@ualberta.ca 492-2187 ted.putman@ualberta.ca Ted Putman David Mitsui 492-2931 david.mitsui@ualberta.ca Terry Danyluk 492-1015 terry.danyluk@ualberta.ca

### EFF - FSIDA (FUND FOR SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL **DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES)**

The deadline for receipt of applications to the EFF - FSIDA is 4:30 p.m., October 15, 2004. The next competition deadline dates are January 15,

This Fund exists to enable staff and graduate students (normally PhD candidates) of the University of Alberta to participate in research and in the international transfer of knowledge and expertise through partnerships in developing

Applications and guidelines are available on the University of Alberta International website < www.international.ualberta.ca > under "International Cooperation" and "Funding Opportunities" or from the FSIDA Secretary at University of Alberta International, 1204 College Plaza, 8215-112 Street, telephone 492-6440.

#### **EFF - UNIVERSITY TEACHING RESEARCH FUND**

The deadline for receipt of applications to the EFF - University Teaching Research Fund is October 15.

This fund was established to encourage and support research on teaching-learning. The primary purpose of this fund is to enhance the level and quality of teaching research and curricula development in the university. Funding priorities include research projects that have the potential of contributing to the increased effectiveness of university teaching, learning, and curricula development.

Application forms are available from the Office of the Vice-Provost, 2-10 University Hall, phone: 2-1503; also on our website

http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/provost/ AwardsFunding.cfm

#### INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FUND

The "International Partnership Fund" (IPF) was established to support University of Alberta faculty and staff participating in exchange activities with the university's many partner institutions around the world. The fund provides financial support to faculty and staff engaged in the development and/or implementation of activities that contribute to sustainable and reciprocal relations with international academic partners. Awards may be used for travel by either the U of A staff/faculty member to visit an international partner, or for the faculty or unit to support a visitor from the partner. The fund favors activities that develop projects bringing an international focus to the academic, research and teaching mandate, and contribute to the internationalization objectives of the faculty.

Support from the IPF will ideally complement multiple funding sources. Matching support from the individual and/or the department/faculty and partner institution is required.

Note: The IPF only applies to those institutions with which the U of A has a formal agreement.

For guidelines, application forms and list of

eligible partners, please contact: **University of Alberta International** 

1204 College Plaza, Tel: 492-1531/e-mail: yan-

mei.fei@ualberta.ca or visit our website: http://www.international.

ualberta.ca/cooperation/funding/ipf/

Application deadline: Monday, November 1,



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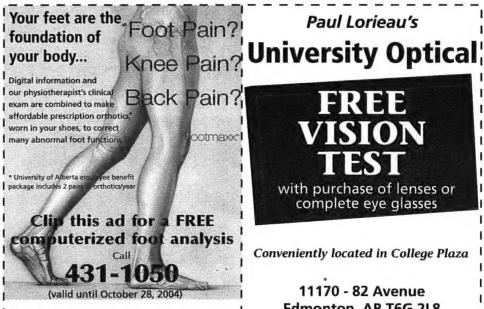


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### University artists make significant contribution to city's visual arts landscape

By Shawn Benbow

The history of painting, from the palettes of professors at the University of Alberta, is the newest exhibition at the FAB Gallery. Edmonton Excels: Half a Century of Painters at the University of Alberta's Department of Art and Design is a showcase of works by U of A painting teachers over the last 50 years, and runs October 5 - 22.

With the City of Edmonton celebrating its 100th anniversary, Jetske Sybesma, chair of the Department of Art and Design, wanted to show the important influence the department has had on the greater community. That influence, it turns out has been profound. The establishment of the department itself marks a milestone in the city's history and cultural development.

"All of these professors contributed to Edmonton's visual culture thought their work and by teaching painting to a number of students," Sybesma said.

From paintings by H.G. Glyde, who founded the painting program at the U of A in 1946, to pieces by current professors Jon Freeman and Allen Ball, a wide range of art is laid out for the public to see.

Twelve painting professors, each with vastly different styles and techniques, are showcased. Each of the artists has been a permanent staff member in the department.

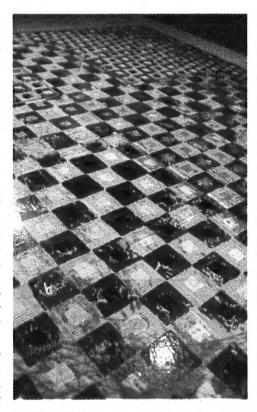
Sybesma brought this exhibition together to celebrate the impact the department has had not only on its students but also on Edmonton's visual culture. "Until 1946, there was only one place, the Edmonton Art Club, where people could go to learn to paint," Sybesma said. She believes the inception of the painting program at the U of A was a catalyst that helped Edmonton's visual culture develop into the vibrant state it enjoys today.

With an increase of more than 30 per cent in enrolment in the Fine Arts department, the number of students learning to paint has increased, but Sybesma wants more people to be aware of the department.

This exhibition is also a good way to see the many techniques used over the years, Sybesma said. "It's fascinating to see the diversity and approaches used by the professors in this exhibition."

The painters featured in the exhibit include Glyde, Ball and Freeman, as well as J.B. Taylor, Norman Yates, David Cantine, Bob Sinclair, Jon Knowlton, Doug Haynes, Graham Peacock, Phil Darrah and Rick Chenier.

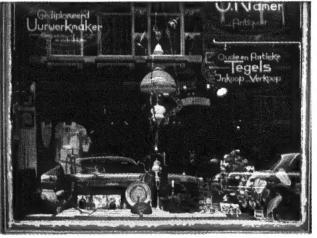
The FAB Gallery is located in room 1-1 of the Fine Arts Building at 112 Street and 89 Avenue. The gallery is opened 10 a.m. − 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and on Saturdays from 2 − 5 p.m. ■











Graham Peacock's Koo Koo Ka Choo (top photo). Allen Ball's Blue Cross (top left). John Freeman's Flora Loves Bill (left middle). Douglas Haynes' Cielo (bottom left). John Freeman's Slow Burn (above). Johnathan Knowlton's The Blue Lamp (left).

